

SaveSouthTynesideHospital



@SaveSTHospital



Keep our Consultant-led Children's A&E in South Tyneside

SAVE SOUTH TYNESIDE HOSPITAL

Join The Protest

Friday July 30th, 2021 | 12-1pm
(Harton Lane entrance to South Tyneside Hospital)

On August 4th South Tyneside Hospital children's A&E is being downgraded from a consultant-led emergency A&E to a nurse-led minor injuries & illness service. They will cut the number of paediatric nursing staff and their direct links to specialities. We need to keep our children's A&E and assessment beds at South Tyneside Hospital. This is the worst option (#2) in the "Path to Excellence", where they say "savings of approximately £220,000 will be made". Shame on government and those driving cuts to vital services. It will mean less safe access for people in South Tyneside who will have to travel for emergency care to Sunderland, with it's increasingly crowded service.

This is alongside more plans to downgrade our A&E when they consult in the autumn on removing access to urgent surgery at South Tyneside. These cuts are not in our name, with over 44,000 signing our petition. It is our hospital and our NHS, we should be able to retain and restore vital acute and community health services that we need.

We hold a weekly Hoot for our Children's A&E outside the hospital on a Friday lunchtime, 12-1pm. Come along, or get involved by attending one of our regular online meetings (see website for details).

OUR WORK SO FAR:

We are entering the 5th year of the fight to save our hospital acute and other services. We have over 44,000 signatures on our petition, which was presented to parliament with the help of MPs on June 6th. The people of South Tyneside and Sunderland have held six large demonstrations, and several large public meetings of more than 100, such as the meeting in July 2019 with Professor Allyson Pollock. We have continued to meet fortnightly online throughout the pandemic.

In May 2018 phase-1 of hospital service closures - *affecting 24/7 children's A&E, full maternity, our Special Care Baby Unit, and stroke services* - was referred to the Secretary of State by the Joint South Tyneside and Sunderland Health Scrutiny Committee who stated that the plans were *“not in the best interests of the people of South Tyneside”*. This referral was rejected by the government.

We continued the fight and challenged the legality of the phase-1 Consultation at both a Judicial Review and an appeal to the High Court.

PRESENT FOCUS : PHASE-2

Opposing plans to downgrade our A&E, including our children's A&E. Everyone will be at greater risk as we are forced to travel further for emergency surgery. The Trust plan to move all other acute services out of South Tyneside. This is not a “path to excellence”. Access to healthcare will become harder for people in one of the most deprived communities in the North East. It will impact on Sunderland, where in 2019 there were too few beds to admit patients. We're also working with others to reinstate palliative care services in South Tyneside.

OUR POSITION:

- Health care is a right!
- We demand locally accessible district hospitals with a wide range of properly funded acute, community and mental health services.
- We demand that vital services are retained in South Tyneside and Sunderland.
- We demand an end to the marketisation and privatisation of the NHS.

www.savesouthtynesidehospital.org

**Access to health care is a right of all in a modern society;
We demand that it be guaranteed.**